WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for time-stamping a message to a mobile recipient, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a message at a message center, the message intended for receipt by a given recipient;

detecting a location of the given recipient;

determining a time zone associated with a detected location of the recipient; and

creating a time-stamp for said message using said determined time zone.

2. The method of claim 1 comprising the further step of transmitting said message with said time-stamp from said message center to the recipient.

3. A method for time stamping a message to a mobile station, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a message for the mobile station at a message center;

associating a first time with said message, said first time related to the time of receipt of the message by the message center;

determining if the mobile station is registered; and

if the mobile station is registered,

detecting a location of the mobile station;

determining a time zone associated with a detected location of the mobile station; and

creating a time-stamp that is associated with said message using said first time and said determined time zone.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein if it is determined the mobile station is not registered, storing the received message and the first time until such time as the mobile station registers, and then

determining a location of the mobile station,
determining a time zone of the mobile station and;
creating a time-stamp that is associated with said message using said first time and said determined time zone.

5. In a wireless communication system, a method for time stamping a message to a mobile station, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a message for a mobile station at a message center at a first time;
interrogating a home location register (HLR) of said mobile station to determine if the mobile station is registered in the wireless communication system;
if said mobile station is registered, receiving from the HLR information identifying a mobile switching center through which the mobile station is registered;
determining a time off-set between the message center and the identified mobile switching center; and
creating a time-stamp to be associated with said message using said first time and said time off-set.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein if said mobile station is determined to not be registered then, storing the message and first time wherein the first time constitutes an initial approximation of a time stamp, said initial approximation subject to change upon receipt of mobile station location information upon subsequent registration by said mobile station.

7. A method for sending a time-stamped message to a mobile recipient, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a message at a message center in a first time zone;
determining a second time zone in which the mobile recipient is located;
creating a time-stamp based on said second time

zone; and

sending said time-stamp and said message to the mobile recipient.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said first and second time zones are different.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein said step of determining said second time zone comprises the step of:

determining a network node with which the mobile recipient is registered.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said network switch comprises a switch providing wireless communication capabilities.

11. A system for time stamping a message to a mobile recipient comprising:

a home location register (HLR) that holds information about where the mobile recipient is registered;

a message center that receives a message for the mobile recipient and queries the HLR for an indication of a location of the mobile recipient; and

a time zone database identifying a time zone for the indicated location of the mobile location;

wherein said message center time stamps said received message using time zone information identified by said time zone database.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein said indicator identifies a mobile switching center with which the mobile station is registered.